Yates Group Limited

Report and Financial Statements

25 February 2007



Registered No 478794

Directors

Aaron Brown Timothy Smalley Ian Payne Paul Symonds Suzanne Baker Christian Keen

Secretary

Eversecretary Limited Eversheds House 70 Great Bridgewater Street Manchester M1 5ES

Auditors

Ernst & Young LLP 400 Capability Green Luton Bedfordshire LU1 3LU

Registered office

Porter Tun House 500 Capability Green Luton Bedfordshire LU1 3LS

Directors' report

The directors present their annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 25 February 2007

Results and dividends

The profit for the year after taxation amounted to £790,000 (period ended 26 February 2006 loss £7,376,000) There were no dividends paid in the year (period ended 26 February 2006 £nil)

Principal activities and review of the business

The company continues to hold all the fixed assets of Yates's Wine Lodges Limited and Ha! Ha! Bar and Canteen Limited and recharges the depreciation to these companies

The directors are currently in discussions with the Group's lenders with a view to restructuring the Group's borrowing facilities. The directors are confident that this will be completed by March 2008 and considering the company's ability to meet all its future obligations based on the projected cash flows, the directors therefore consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis

Principal risks and uncertainties

The company has entered into an intercreditor agreement as a guarantor on all intercompany balances along with other group companies, these balances account for the vast majority of the company's debtors and creditors

Directors and their interests

The directors who served during the year were

	Appointed	Resigned
Julian Sargeson	-	19 May 2006
Timothy Smalley	-	_
Aaron Brown	_	_
Stephen Brown	-	31 January 2007
Ian Payne	-	-
Paul Symonds	6 September 2006	-
Suzanne Baker	6 September 2006	_
Christian Keen	29 Novémber 2006	_

The directors had no interest in the ordinary shares of the company at any time during the year

No director had any interests in any contract or arrangements of a material nature with the company, its subsidiaries, its fellow subsidiaries or its ultimate parent company during the year under review

Directors' qualifying third party indemnity provisions

The company has granted an indemnity to one or more of its directors against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 1985 Such qualifying third party indemnity provision remains in force as at the date of approving the directors' report

Directors' report

Disclosure of information to the auditors

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing this report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow directors and the group's auditor, each director has taken all the steps that they are obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

Auditors

A resolution to reappoint Ernst & Young LLP will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting

By order of the Board

Christian Keen

Director

12 November 2007

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent auditors' report

to the members of Yates Group Limited

We have audited the company's financial statements for the year ended 25 February 2007 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, Balance Sheet, statement of total recognised gains and losses and the related notes 1 to 20 These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out therein

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) as set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland)

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 and whether the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements

We also report to you if, in our opinion, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed

We read the directors' report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Independent auditors' report

to the members of Yates Group Limited

Opinion

In our opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 25 February 2007 and of its profit for the year then ended,
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985, and
- the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements

Erwst & Young LLP
Registered Auditor
LUTON
16 November 2007

Profit and loss account

for the year ended 25 February 2007

		Year ended	39 weeks ended 26 February
		25 February 2007	201 657441.7
	Notes	£'000	£'000
O-aroting costs		(7,776)	(9,749)
Operating costs	3	(378)	(1,836)
Exceptional costs Other operating income		7,616	8,537
Total operating loss		(538)	(3,048)
(Loss)/profit on disposal of assets	4	(91)	270
(Loss) on ordinary activities before interest and taxation		(629)	(2,778)
Interest receivable and similar income	5	104	87
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(707)	(496)
Net finance credit	16	50	15
(Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation		(1,182)	(3,172)
Taxation	7	1,972	(4,204)
Profit/(loss) for the financial year/period		790	(7,376)

All activities derive form continuing operations

Balance sheet

as at 25 February 2007

		•	26 February
		2007	2006
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible	8	75,228	78,502
Investments	9	5,188	5,060
		80,416	83,562
Current assets			
Debtors	10	29,943	24,095
Cash at bank and in hand		308	445
		30,251	24,540
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	11	(51,468)	(48,277)
Net current liabilities		(21,217)	(23,737)
Total assets less current liabilities		59,199	59,825
Creditors amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(8,804)	(8,133)
Provisions for habilities and charges	13	(9,959)	(11,979)
Pension scheme deficit	17	-	(749)
Net assets		40,436	38,964
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	14	16,765	16,765
Share premium account	15	19,028	19,028
Profit and loss account	15	4,643	3,171
Equity shareholders' funds		40,436	38,964
		: =	

The balance sheet as at 26 February 2006 has been restated to correctly classify the interest payable to group undertakings, this has no impact on the reported net liabilities of the company

Christian Keen Director

12 November 2007

Statement of total recognised gains and losses

for the year ended 25 February 2007

	Year ended 25 February 2007 £'000	39 weeks ended 26 February 2006 £'000
Profit(loss) on ordinary activities attributable to the shareholders	790	(7,376)
Actuarial gain/(loss) recognised in the retirement benefit scheme		1.072
Difference between the expected and actual return on scheme assets	110	1,073
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme liabilities	793	(1,483)
Experience gain arising on scheme liabilities	130	-
Additional loss from irrecoverable surplus	(58))
	975	(410)
Tax on net retirement benefit items recognised in the statement of total recognised gains and losses	(293	123
Total gains and losses recognised related to the year	1,472	(7,663)

as at 25 February 2007

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements of Yates Group Limited were approved for issue by the Board of Directors on 12 November 2007

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. The particular accounting policies adopted are described below and have been applied consistently throughout the year and the prior period.

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared on the going concern basis

Basis of consolidation

Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as the accounts of the company and its wholly owned subsidiaries have been consolidated with those of the Laurel Pub Equity Holdings Limited These financial statements present information about the company as an individual and not as a group undertaking

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation

Depreciable fixed assets are written off on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates of depreciation are as follows

- leasehold properties are depreciated to their estimated residual values over the shortest of 50 years, their
 estimated useful lives and their remaining lease periods,
- administration furniture, fixtures, fittings and equipment are depreciated over 2 to 25 years, or the remaining period of the lease if shorter, and
- retail furniture, fixtures and equipment are depreciated over 3 to 25 years, or the remaining period of the

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Profit and losses on disposal of fixed assets reflect the difference between net selling price and net book value at the date of disposal.

Acquisitions

Purchases of businesses are accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting. Identifiable assets and liabilities acquired are included at their fair values at the date of acquisition. The difference between the fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and the fair value of the purchase consideration is goodwill

Cash flow statement

The company has taken advantage of the provisions of paragraph 5 of FRS 1 "Cash Flow Statements" and has not produced a cash flow statement

investments

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at cost less provision for impairment

Leases

Rental payments in respect of operating leases are charged against operating profit on a straight line basis over the period of the lease

as at 25 February 2007

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Retirement benefits

The operating cost of providing retirement benefits under the Group's defined benefit pension plan, as calculated periodically by independent actuaries, is charged to the company's operating profit or loss in the period that those benefits are earned by employees. The financial return expected on the pension scheme's assets is recognised in the period in which they arise as part of finance income and the effect of the unwinding of the discounted value of the pension scheme's habilities is treated as part of finance costs. The changes in value of the pension scheme's assets and habilities are reported as actuarial gains or losses as they arise in the consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses. Any pension scheme surplus, to the extent it is considered recoverable, or deficit are recognised in full and presented in the balance sheet net of any related deferred tax. Both the pension hability and the related deferred tax asset have been calculated assuming the business continues to trade successfully over the long-term period to which they both relate

Retirement benefit costs under defined contribution pension plans are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred

Taxation

Deferred taxation is provided in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard ("FRS") 19 on all timing differences arising from the different treatment of items for accounts and taxation purposes calculated at rates at which it is estimated that tax will arise. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted

2. Auditors' remuneration, directors' emoluments and employees

Auditors' remuneration has been borne by other group companies in the current financial year and previous period. The estimated auditors' remuneration for the year for this company amounted to £20,000 (2006 £40,000)

The directors received no remuneration for their services in respect of the company in the financial year. The company had no employees other than the directors

as at 25 February 2007

3.	Exceptional operating costs		
	·	Year ended	39 weeks ended
		25 February	26 February
		2007	2006
		£000	£000
	Impairment of properties	378	1,836
4.	Profit/(loss) on disposal of assets		10 1 1.1
	•	Year ended	39 weeks ended
		25 February	26 February
		2007	2006
		£'000	£'000
	(Loss)/profit on sale of properties	(91)	270
	(Loss)/profit on sale of properties		
_	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A		
5.	Interest receivable and similar income	Year ended	39 weeks ended
		25 February	26 February
		2007	2006
		£'000	£'000
	On preference shares held in subsidiary undertaking	104	87
	On presence shares held in substating under atting		
_			
6.	Interest payable	Year ended	39 weeks ended
			26 February
		25 February 2007	20 February 2006
			£'000
		£'000	£ 000
	On loan to Laurel BidCo Limited	707	496
		===	====

as at 25 February 2007

7. Tax on loss on ordinary activities

The tax charge is made up as follows		
	Year ended	39 weeks ended
	25 February	26 February
	2007	2006
	£'000	£'000
Current year charge		
UK corporation tax of the period	_	1,886
Adjustment in respect of prior period	-	(780)
Adjustment in respect of prior portor		
Total current tax	_	1,106
Total Current dax		
Deferred tax		
Current year charge relating to other items	(1,804)	(1,510)
Current year charge relating to retirement scheme	45	29
Acquisitions and disposals of subsidiaries and businesses	_	(23)
Adjustment in respect of prior period relating to		
accelerated capital allowances	(213)	4,602
Total deferred tax	(1,972)	3,098
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	(1,972)	4,204
Tax off foss on ordinary dotty ties	. ====	

The differences between the total current tax shown above and the amount calculated by applying the standard rate of UK corporation tax to the loss before tax is as follows

rate of UK corporation tax to the loss before tax is as follows	Year ended 25 February 2007 £'000	39 weeks ended 26 February 2006 £'000
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(1,182)	(3,172)
Tax credit on loss on ordinary activities at standard UK corporation tax rate of 30% (2006 – 30%)	(355)	(952)
Effects of	735	1,233
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Accelerated capital allowance	1,804	1,611
Other timing differences	(45)	(6)
Adjustments in respect of previous periods		(780)
Group relief claimed free of charge	(2,139)	_
Current year tax charge		1,106
		

as at 25 February 2007

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Property £'000	Equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost			
At 26 February 2006	97,814	60,904	158,718
Additions	2,077	4,022	6,099
Transfers to group companies	-	(12)	(12)
Disposals	(3,809)	(876)	(4,685)
At 25 February 2007	96,082	64,038	160,120
Depreciation			
At 26 February 2006	31,055	49,161	80,216
Charge for the year	2,907	4,709	7,616
Transfers to group companies	-	(2)	(2)
Impairment	324	54	378
Disposals	(2,626)	(690)	(3,316)
At 25 February 2007	31,660	53,232	84,892
Net book value			,
At 25 February 2007	64,422	10,806	75,228
At 26 February 2006	66,759	11,743	78,502

The impairment of fixed assets relates to post year end disposals that have been disposed of below the net book value. These assets have been impaired to the value of the net disposal proceeds received.

as at 25 February 2007

9. Investments

	Investment in quoted investments £'000	subsidiary undertakings	Total £'000
At 26 February 2006 Additions	21	5,039 128	5,060 128
At 25 February 2007	21	5,167	5,188

On 30 November 2006 the company acquired 127,886 £1 10% A preference shares from SFI Holdings Limited for £127,886 These were issued by Yates' Wine Lodges Limited, a subsidiary company

The principal subsidiary undertakings held by the company and directly owned by Yates Group Limited at 25 February 2007 were -

Subsidiary undertaking	Class	Holding	Activity
Yates' Wine Lodges Limited	Ordinary	100%	Managed pubs & bars
Ha! Ha! Bar & Canteen Limited	Ordinary	100%	Managed pubs & bars
Forno Vivo Limited	Ordinary	100%	Managed pubs & bars
Yates Brothers Limited	Ordinary	100%	Dormant

All indirect subsidiaries are not listed due to the excessive length of disclosure

10. Debtors

	2007	2006
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	938	13
Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	26,850	23,102
Other debtors	1,135	55
Prepayments	981	925
Defined pension scheme asset (note 17)	39	_
	29,943	24,095
	====	

as at 25 February 2007

44	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
11.	Creditors: amounts faming due within one your	2007	2006
		£'000	£'000
		233	71
	Trade creditors	26,897	43,269
	Amounts owed to subsidiary undertakings	19,391	509
	Amounts owed to group undertakings	1,730	349
	Social security and other taxes	1,743	1,935
	Corporation tax payable Accruals	1,474	2,144
		51,468	48,277
		====	
12.	Creditors: amounts falling after more than one year		4004
		2007	2006
		£'000	£'000
	Amounts owed to group undertakings	8,804 =====	8,133
13.	Provisions for liabilities and charges	D.	eferred Tax
		ν	
			£'000
	At 26 February 2006		
	At 26 February 2006 Movement on deferred tax		£'000
			£'000 11,979
	Movement on deferred tax		£'000 11,979 (2,020)
	Movement on deferred tax	Amount	£'000 11,979 (2,020)
	Movement on deferred tax	Amount	£'000 11,979 (2,020) 9,959 —————————————————————————————————
	Movement on deferred tax		£'000 11,979 (2,020) 9,959
	Movement on deferred tax At 25 February 2007	Amount provided	£'000 11,979 (2,020) 9,959 —————————————————————————————————
	Movement on deferred tax	Amount provided 2007	£'000 11,979 (2,020) 9,959 —————————————————————————————————
	Movement on deferred tax At 25 February 2007 Deferred tax comprises	Amount provided 2007 £000	£'000 11,979 (2,020) 9,959 —————————————————————————————————

as at 25 February 2007

14. Share capital

	£'000
Authorised 90,000,000 ordinary shares of £0 25 each at 26 February 2006 and 25 February 2007	22,500
Called up and fully paid 67,060,301 ordinary share of £0 25 each at 26 February 2006 and 25 February 2007	16,765
	= = =

15. Reserves

	Share premium account £000	Profit and loss account £000	Total £000
At 29 May 2005	19,028	10,834 (7,376)	29,862 (7,376)
Loss for the period Actuarial loss on pension scheme net of tax	-	(287)	(287)
At 26 February 2006	19,028	3,171 790	22,199 790
Profit for the year Actuarial gain on pension scheme net of tax	-	682	682
At 25 February 2007	19,028	4,643	23,671
		====	====

as at 25 February 2007

16	Financial	commitments
In.	FILIAULIA	COMMINGIO

Annual commitments under property
operating leases which expire as follows
Between two and five years
After five years

£000	£000
148 11,693	148 11,778
11,841	11,926

2007

2006

17. Pensions

Yates Group Limited operates a funded defined benefit scheme, the membership of which is closed and a defined contribution scheme introduced on 1 April 1994. The assets of the two schemes are held in a single, separate trustee administered fund. Any actuarial assessment of the defined benefit part of the scheme was last carried out by an independent qualified actuary at 31 March 2004. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the valuation are

	25 February 2007	26 February 2006	29 May 2005
Discount rate	5 40%	4 90%	5 25%
Inflation	3 00%	2 70%	2 75%
Rate of increase of salaries	4 00%	3 70%	4 50%
Rate of increase in pensions payment	3 00%	2 70%	2 75%

The assets in the scheme and the long term expected rates of return were

		2007		2006		2005
	Long term expected rate of		Long term expected rate of		Long term expected rate of	
	rate oj return	Value	return	Value	return	Value
	%	£000	%	£000	%	£000
Equities	7 50	5,880	7 50	5,869	7 50	4,546
Bonds	5 00	5,792	4 00	5,518	4 50	4,784
Cash	5 25	103	3 50	30	4 75	755
Total market value of assets		11,775		11,417		10,085
Present value of scheme liabilities		(11,719)		(12,487)		(10,840)
Surplus/(deficit) in the	scheme	56		(1,070)		(755)
Related deferred tax asset /(liability)		(17)		321		227
Net pension asset/(liab	oility)	39		(749)		(528)
		======		====		===

as at 25 February 2007

17. Pensions (continued)

Analysis of the amount recognised in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

	Year ended 25 February 2007	Period ended 26 February 2006	Period ended 29 May 2005
Difference between expected and actual return on scheme assets			
A	110	1,073	528
Amount gain Percentage of scheme assets	0 9%	9 4%	5 2%
Experience gains and losses arising on the scheme liabilit	ies		
A month of one	130	_	830
Amount gain Percentage of present value of scheme liabilities	1 1%	-	7 7%
Effects of changes in the demographic and financial Assumptions underlying the present value of scheme Liabilities			
Amount gain/(loss)	793	(1,483)	(524)
Percentage of present value of scheme habilities	6 8%	11 9%	4 8%
Additional loss from irrecoverable surplus	(58)	_	_
Percentage of present value of scheme liabilities	0 5%	_	_
Total amount recognised in STRGL			
Amount gain/(loss)	975	(410)	834
Percentage of scheme liabilities	8 3%	3 3%	7 7%

as at 25 February 2007

17. Pensions (continued)

Movement in deficit during the year		
MOAGILIEUR III GELION GGLILIA ALIA Jam	Year ended	Period ended
	25 February	26 February
	2007	2006
	£000	£000
Deficit in scheme at start of the year/period	1,070	755
Movement in the year/period		
Current service costs	6	13
Net finance charge	(50)	(15)
Contributions	(107)	(93)
Past service costs	` _	_
	(975)	410
Actuarial gain		
(Surplus)/deficit in scheme at end of the year/period	(56)	1,070
Analysis of amount charged to operating loss		
•	Year ended	Period ended
	25 February	26 February
	2007	2006
	£000	£000
Current serring on t	6	13
Current service cost	_	_
Past service cost		
T (1) water charge	6	13
Total operating charge	_	_
Contributions to defined contribution scheme		
Total pension costs	6	13
Analysis of amount charged to finance costs		
•	Year ended	Period ended
	25 February	26 February
	2007	2016014419
	£000	£000
	2000	2000
Expected return on pension scheme assets	(650)	(436)
Interest on pension scheme assets	600	421
Net return	(50)	(15)
1100 1050444		

as at 25 February 2007

18. Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 8 that transactions do not need to be disclosed with companies 90% or more of whose voting rights are controlled within the group. During the year the company disposed of Yates Huddersfield to Yates Propco No 2 (Huddersfield) Limited, a company under common ownership by the ultimate controlling party of Yates Group Limited, for £1,060,000

19. Ultimate parent undertaking

The immediate parent company is Yates BIDCO Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales The ultimate parent company is Laurel Pub Equity Holdings Limited (a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales) and the ultimate controlling party is The Tchenguiz Family Trust

The only group for which consolidated financial statements are prepared which include the company is that headed by Laurel Pub Equity Holdings Limited Consolidated financial statements for this company are available to the public and can be obtained from Porter Tun House, 500 Capability Green, Luton, Beds, LU1 3LS

20 Contingent liabilities

The company, along with other group undertakings, had guaranteed the indebtedness of another group undertaking, Laurel Pub BIDCO Limited As at 25 February 2007, the amount outstanding in the books of Laurel Pub BIDCO Limited, including accrued finance charges, was £166 7 million

The company entered into an intercreditor agreement as a guarantor on 20 May 2005 on all intercompany balances as they arise from time. The agreement is between among others, the company, Laurel Pub BIDCO Limited, Dresdner Bank AG, London Branch and Kaupthing Bank hf as agent and security trustee.